
	LOS LUNAS POLICE DEPARTMENT		
	OPERATIONS	NUMBER: OPR.01.01(A)	EFFECTIVE DATE: April 28, 2010
	SUBJECT: Bicycle Patrol		REVIEW DATE: July 20, 2015
	AMENDS/ SUPERSEDES:	NMSA:	
NMMLEPSC STANDARDS: OPR.01.01(A)		APPROVED BY CHIEF OF POLICE NAITHAN G. GURULE  Signature	

I. PURPOSE

It is the purpose of Bicycle Patrol to reduce crime, provide a highly mobile police presence and promote positive personal interaction with the community. Bicycle patrol is part of the concept of community policing.

II. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Officers on bicycle patrol will function as an integral part of the Patrol Division assuming the same responsibilities for investigation of criminal activities, traffic crashes and all calls for service within their assigned area of responsibility unless otherwise assigned to specific directed patrol activities.
- B. During times of routine patrol, Bicycle Officers will concentrate their patrol to areas of high pedestrian traffic and congested vehicle traffic where the mobility of the bicycle will allow a faster response or access otherwise limited by a patrol car.
 1. The Bicycle Officer may be assigned to specific areas of the City to provide an accessible Police presence at high volume civic functions such as fairs, parades, music festivals, softball tournaments, etc.
 2. The Bicycle Officer may be assigned directed patrol duties in areas of high crime incidence or when the mobility and stealth of a bicycle mounted officer would be beneficial in the investigation or

apprehension of criminal perpetrators.

C. The Bicycle Patrol will be an integral part of the Community Oriented Policing philosophy adopted by this Department. Because of their high visibility, greater mobility and approachability, the Bicycle Officer must be a working ambassador for the Department and will be expected to promote a positive image of the Police Department.

1. The Bicycle Officer may be assigned to give presentations on the functions of the Bicycle Patrol or bicycle safety to civic groups, schools or other organizations as required.
2. The Bicycle Officer may be assigned to promote public relations at Police oriented displays and other civic displays and booths where a high volume of the general public will be allowed to receive demonstrations and ask questions about the functions of the Bicycle Patrol or other Police activities.
3. Special assignments to public relations functions will be made by Shift Supervisor.

III. EQUIPMENT

- A. The Bicycle Officer will be assigned a multi-speed mountain bicycle suitable for the rigorous demands of Bicycle Patrol duties. The bike will be equipped with specific additional equipment to facilitate the efficient functioning of a Police Officer.
1. The bicycle will be clearly marked and identified as a Police vehicle.
 2. The bicycle will be equipped with storage trunks and/or saddlebags to allow the carrying of essential Police equipment.
 3. The bicycle will be equipped with a headlight and taillight for night operation. During hours of darkness the headlight and taillight should be used to insure safety and visibility of the officer when working in traffic. However, use of the lights will be left to the

officer's discretion if there is a specific need to avoid detection. The officer will assume responsibility for riding without lights after dark and will exercise additional precautions to maintain safety.

4. The Bicycle Officer will be responsible for insuring that his assigned bicycle and equipment is maintained in good working order and reporting all problems with equipment through the chain of command.
- B. Bicycle Officers will be issued patrol uniforms specifically designed for bicycling.
1. The Bicycle Officer will utilize the regular Patrol Uniform for Magistrate Court, District Court, and Grand Jury hearings if the court time is scheduled during the officer's regular shift. The Bicycle uniform may be worn to Municipal Court hearings.
 2. The Bicycle Officer will keep their assigned uniforms neat, clean and in good repair and will follow the same personal appearance standards as other officers of the Patrol Division.
 3. No officer may wear a bicycle officers uniform unless they are actually utilizing the bicycle for that shift.
- C. An A.N.S.I. or SNELL approved bicycle helmet will be issued to each Bicycle Patrol Officer for safety purposes. Said helmet will be worn at all times when riding the bicycle.
- D. All equipment used or worn by Bicycle Patrol Officers that is not issued by the Department will be approved by the Patrol Division Commander through the chain of command.

IV. OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

- A. Whenever possible, considering manpower limitations, the Bicycle Officers will be assigned a single district or districts in which the mobility of the bicycle mounted officer will be most efficient and readily utilized. Bicycle Officers will patrol their assigned districts utilizing their bicycle mounted on issued racks on their patrol units. Patrol units should be parked at strategic, centrally located areas from which they can patrol from their bikes yet make a rapid

return to their patrol car should they be required to respond to other areas of the City. The patrol car should be maintained within a maximum of 5-7- block radius of the planned patrol area while on the bicycle.

- B. The Bicycle Officer will inform dispatch of their patrol car location and when they are patrolling on bicycle.
- C. The shift supervisor will be responsible for planning the activities and directed patrol functions of the Bicycle Officers assigned to his shift.
- D. The bicycle officer will conduct daily activities on a priority basis as follows:
 - 1. Calls for service (unless assigned a specific task and responsibility for calls for service is removed by shift supervisor).
 - 2. Directed Patrol Duties (assigned by shift supervisor).
 - 3. Routine Patrol on bicycle with emphasis on making positive community contacts.

V. SELECTION AND QUALIFICATIONS OF THE BICYCLE PATROL OFFICER

- A. Assignment to the Bicycle Patrol Unit will be made by the Support Services Lieutenant.
- B. The day to day supervision of Bicycle Patrol Officers regarding assigned activities, shift responsibilities, scheduling and general supervision will be the responsibility of the Shift Supervisor or the Support Services Lieutenant.
- C. All officers given duties of Bicycle Patrol will have to go through a Police Cycling class accredited by the New Mexico Department of Public Safety.